

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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Session B4
State Interface in Emergency Response

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Overview

- National Response Plan
- Prompt Notification Requirements
- Potassium Iodide
- Disaster Initiated Reviews



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National Response Plan (NRP)

Guiding Policy: Homeland Security Act & HSPD-5

Supercedes

- FRP
- CONPLAN
- FRERP
- INRP

Integrates

- NCP
- Other national-level contingency plans

National Response Plan



Incorporates key concepts

- NIMS
- HSOC
- IIMG
- PFO
- JFO
- ESFs



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Applicability/Scope

- Provides the national framework for domestic incident management
- Broadly applies to all incident categories
- Establishes incident/potential incident monitoring and reporting protocols
- DHS becomes involved in ***Incidents of National Significance*** for:
 - Operational coordination; and/or
 - Resource coordination



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Incidents of National Significance

Incidents which require DHS operational coordination and/or resource coordination. Includes:

- Credible threats, indications or acts of terrorism within the United States
- Major disasters or emergencies under the Stafford Act
- Catastrophic incidents
- Unique situations that may require DHS to aid in coordination of incident management...



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Incidents of National Significance

- Unique situations that may require DHS coordination include:
 - When a Federal department or agency acting under its own authority has requested the assistance of the Secretary
 - When the Secretary has been directed to assume responsibility for managing the domestic incident by the President
 - Events that exceed the purview of other established Federal plans
 - Events of regional or national importance involving one or more Federal agencies (at the discretion of the Secretary of DHS)
 - National Special Security Events



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Concept of Operations

- Single national framework for various Federal roles:
 - Direct implementation of Federal authorities
 - Federal to State support
 - Federal to Federal support
 - Pro-active response to catastrophic incidents
- Incidents handled at lowest possible organizational level
- DHS receives notification of incidents and potential incidents, assesses regional or national implications and determines need for DHS coordination
- DHS operational and/or resource coordination for Incidents of National Significance



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Nuclear/Radiological Incident Annex

- Incorporates planning basis and response methodology contained in current Federal Radiological Emergency Preparedness Plan
- Maintains roles of the Federal Radiological Preparedness Coordinating Committee and Regional Assistance Committees
- Important Revisions
 - Annex applies to terrorist events
 - HHS lead role in population monitoring and decontamination



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Implementation Guidance

- Phase I – Transitional Period (0 - 60 days)
 - Modify training
 - Designate staffing of new NRP organizational elements
 - Become familiar with NRP structures, processes and protocols
- Phase II – Plan Modification (60 – 12- days)
 - Federal Departments/Agencies modify existing interagency plans
 - Conduct necessary training
- Phase III – Initial Implementation and Testing (120 – 365 days)
 - INRP, FRP, FRERP, and CONPLAN are superseded
 - Systematic assessment of NRP structures, processes and protocols
 - Conduct 1-year review to assess success of implementation



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Prompt Notification Requirements

- September 2001 FEMA published new exercise evaluation methodology
- Deferred publication of Criterion 5.a.2 – alert and notification of a fast-moving event (fast-breaker)
- 9/11 brought increased emphasis on fast-moving events
- August 2003 FEMA published proposed criteria for evaluating the capability of offsite officials to make prompt notifications
 - Completion of siren sounding and beginning of notification message must be accomplished within about 15 (not to exceed 20) minutes
 - Must be demonstrated very two years
 - Must conduct monthly drills



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Prompt Notification (Cont.)

- NRC Design Objective
 - Essentially complete initial notification of the public in the plume exposure pathway emergency planning zone within about 15 minutes
 - Ranges from immediate notification (within 15 minutes of the time that State/local officials are notified that urgent actions are needed) to the more likely events where there is substantial time available for offsite officials to make a judgment whether or not to activate the public notification system
- Currently developing final criterion language for publication in the Federal Register



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Potassium Iodide (KI)

- Section 127 of Bioterrorism Act of 2002 requires that KI be made available out to 20 miles around commercial nuclear power plants
- HHS will provide KI through the Strategic National Stockpile
- HHS must develop guidance for KI distribution
- September 2004 HHS met with DHS/FEMA, NRC, OMB and HSC to discuss plan of action
- October 2004 HHS, FEMA and NRC developed draft guidance
- November 2004, HHS sought comment from 46 organizations on draft guidance



Potassium Iodide (Cont.)

- Proposed Guidance
 - Requests for KI would be submitted to FEMA for review and approval (State/local plans must be developed before approval)
 - If HHS approves request, KI is supplied
 - FEMA evaluates State/local capability in accordance with existing exercise evaluation methodology
 - Section 127 requirements **do not** result in changes to current emergency planning basis
- Received comments from 33 organizations (20 states)
 - Most states did not believe that KI was needed, especially out to 20 miles
 - Only 4 of 20 states stated they would participate in the program
- HHS, FEMA and NRC currently evaluating comments and revising proposed guidance



Disaster Initiated Reviews

- Purpose – assess the capability of offsite officials to respond to an emergency following a situation that could result in a loss of reasonable assurance that public health and safety can be protected
- Applies to plants that continue operation and plants that undergo precautionary orderly shut down
- FEMA Regional Responsibilities
 - Perform assessment of off-site capabilities
 - Makes reasonable assurance recommendation to FEMA Headquarters
- FEMA Headquarters conveys final reasonable assurance decision to NRC Headquarters
- NRC Headquarters provides operation decision to licensee



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